THE

# WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, November 1, 1802.

## *Inſtances of the Paternal Government in France.*

THE revolution has altered every thing in France. But immediately before it broke out, there exiſted among the mountains of Auvergne, not far from Thiers, ſome curiouſly intereſting examples of the paternal form of political government. Several ſolitary hamlets were poſſeſſed by diſtinct families of the names of Tarante, Baritel, Terme, Guittard, Bourgade, Beaujeux, &c. The following account of the family of Guittard, illuſtrates alſo the condition of the other families. Their hamlet is ſituate about half a league north-weſt from the town of Thiers. It has the name of Pinon. In July, 1788, the family was ſubdivided into four different houſeholds, conſiſting in all of nineteen perſons, men, women, and children. As theſe were unequal to the performance of all the work neceſſary among them, they retained alſo thirteen hired ſervants. This family was ſaid to have lived in the hamlet, which they thus occupied, ever ſince the twelfth century. The adminiſtration of the government of their hamlet was paternal, yet elective. The members of the community were wont to chooſe from among themſelves a chief or head, by a majority of voices. The perſon thus choſen, aſſumes upon this the title of the maſter, acquires the authority of father of the family, and is obliged to watch over all its concerns. All the members of the family work together, for their common benefit. They lodge and eat together; are clothed and entertained at the common expence, out of the general income; and live as ſo many brothers and ſiſters in their father's houſe. The maſter, or head of the family, receives the money, buys and ſells, gives orders for the reparation of their houſes, diſpenſes to every individual his proper taſk, regulates every thing in regard to the harveſts, the vintage, and the cattle.

He is, however, held reſponſible to thoſe from whoſe choice he derives his authority. Nor are there wanting inſtances of the depoſition of a maſter, whom the common voice judged to have abuſed the truſt committed to him.

A woman has, in like manner, the principal direction of matters within doors. She has the title of the miſtreſs; and the kitchen, the poultry-yard, the linens, the clothing of the community, &c are under her charge. She has authority over the women; is elected by a majority of voices; and is liable to be depoſed, if ſhe ſhould abuſe her power.

It is a rule in the community, that the miſtreſs muſt never be either wife or ſiſter to the maſter; becauſe in ſuch a caſe theſe two might be apt, in a more than ordinary degree, to abuſe the confidence of the reſt, to their own private advantage.

It is an unalterable law of the community, on which indeed its very exiſtence fundamentally depends, never to make any diviſion of the common property. Neither in caſe of marriage, nor in caſe of death, is this rule ever infringed. If a young woman of the family of Guittard marry away from Pinon, ſhe receives a marriage portion of 600 livres, or twenty-five pounds ſterling; but upon the wealth of her family retains no further claim. A few of the young men, who have likewiſe gone abroad into the world, have been treated by their family exactly in the ſame manner.

But the men have in general been content to ſettle at home as huſbandmen. Of late, indeed, there was an inſtance of one who entered into holy orders, and became canon of Thiers. He, however, retained ſtill a tender attachment to the place of his birth. To preſerve his connexion with it, he had a ſmall houſe there built for himſelf, in which he was accuſtomed to ſpend two or three agreeable days, every week, with his worthy relations. In 1783 he died, and his houſe was left without a poſſeſſor. The then maſter of the community was his nephew, and in both theſe characters ſeemed to have the beſt right to occupy the vacant houſe. But that houſe, though humble and ſimple, was yet better than the reſt. If the maſter had been better lodged than his brethren and equal, they might, perhaps have looked upon him with an eye of jealouſy. He, therefore, declined to have any thing in particular to do with the houſe; and it was by common conſent appropriated for the reception of any reſpectable ſtrangers coming among them.

Sometimes, indeed, the Guittards take wives out of other communities, juſt as well as give their daughters in marriage to young men belonging to other communities; but they more commonly intermarry among themſelves. Being all mutually relations, and becoming by ſuch marriages ſtill more nearly related, they cannot intermarry without diſpenſations. But the neceſſary diſpenſations have been ever granted by the biſhops of Clermont with the greateſt readineſs:

readineſs: a fact which abundantly teſtifies that this reſpectable family has been always held in the higheſt eſtimation.

The whole animal farm-ſtock of the Guittards of Pinon conſiſted at the time when this account was written of only three yokes of oxen, thirty cows, and eighty ſheep. The houſes are in a good condition, ſuch as might be expected of thoſe of rich farmers. But they have nothing above the condition of mere farmers working with their own hands. Their chairs are ſtraw-bottomed, their beds, cheſts, preſſes, and the wainſcotting of their rooms are of fir-deal. The preſent maſter is the only one among them that poſſeſſes a preſs of oak and walnut tree. He had alſo a ſilver watch, a bequeſt from his uncle the canon. Their linen, ſtockings, clothes, and all thoſe parts of their houſehold furniture, which are of cloth or ſtuff, are made by their women. The men, with the aſſiſtance of their ſervants, build the houſes, repair failures in the roofs, make their implements of huſbandry, prepare hogſheads to hold their wines, without calling in the help of any artiſan. They go to the market for nothing but ſalt and iron. Every one of them is a ſort of Robinſon Cruſoe, qualified to exerciſe all the uſeful arts, ſo far, at leaſt, as his own neceſſities demand.

Unleſs when the nature of the work obliges them to ſeparate, they labour all together. They have a great kitchen, kept always very neat and clean, in which they meet to take their meals together. The table is there for the men, who are ſerved while they eat by the women. When the men riſe from the table, the women then ſit down to their repaſt. In the kitchen is a receſs forming a ſort of chapel; and containing, with an image of Chriſt, another of the Bleſſed Virgin. In that receſs, they join every evening in prayer: their morning prayers they offer up ſeparately and in private.

Beſide the hamlet, the Guittards are proprietors, likewiſe, of a wood, a garden, a few plats of vineyard-ground, and a number of cheſtnut-trees. But the ſoil of their land is poor, bearing no better grain than rye: and the thirty-two mouths which they have daily to ſupply, leave nothing for ſale out of their annual produce of grain. Their charity is, however, unbounded. No poor perſon knocks at their doors without finding admittance; never one that enters comes away, without having eaten a hearty meal of ſoup and bread. Whoever aſks a night's lodging has it. There is even a chamber kept on purpoſe for beggars to ſleep in. In winter, they carry their humanity ſo far as to lodge the wandering poor in the bakehouſe, where they may be warmed by heat from the oven.

From the inn at which I dined at Thiers, ſays M. Le Grand, ſome one had, without my knowledge, gone before, to let thoſe good people know that I was coming to viſit them. On my approach I found that the Guittards had changed their dreſs, and

were waiting together to receive me. In their reception, there was ſomething of ſimplicity and kindneſs inexpreſſibly affecting. This attention, with the ſight of a patriarchal family uniting all ages, from the tendereſt infancy to extreme old age, could not have failed deeply to intereſt me. But what I ſaw with peculiar delight, was—the little girls in groupes preſſing fondly round their mothers—the mothers in cloſe caps and ſnow-white linen, ſome leading by the hand their children, who were already able to run about, others bearing their nurſlings in their arms—the whole a picture in ſhort of concord, health, and innocent felicity, which that little republic of relations preſented. I have not a doubt, but, in length of time, an uniform practice of virtue may give a correſponding mould and impreſſion to the features of the face, and produce ſuch characteriſtic looks as ſhall become the diſtinctions of a whole family for many generations. In fact there is in the looks of the Guittards of Pinon ſomething which marks in the men the dignity of ſimple truth and honeſty—in the women, modeſty, candour, and virtue; and of which the expreſſion is too clear and unequivocal to be miſtaken;—a nameleſs ſomething, that conſtitutes their peculiar and mutual family-reſemblance. The maſter engaged my ſpecial notice. In his dreſs there was nothing ſingular; but his whole figure ſeemed exactly that which the poets have imagined to themſelves whenever they have attempted to give the moſt intereſting deſcriptions of the ſimple manlineſs and native dignity of the human form. He led in his hand his ſon, one of the fineſt boys I had ever ſeen. I entered and ſat down among them. The mothers and their children gathered round me. The men ſtood in an exterior circle. After ſome converſation, the maſter, at my requeſt, conducted me over their farm. In the courſe of our walk, I enquired what means he was accuſtomed to employ, in order to enforce his authority. He told me, that he had hitherto found no neceſſity for having recourſe to ſuch means: all were duly attentive to their common intereſt. Among ſo many men and women, he added, it was impoſſible but that ſome ſlight quarrels ſhould now and then ariſe. In ſuch caſes, the difference is communed over, when we meet at table in the evening. I make the parties drink together, and ſhake hands; and all is at an end before we go to prayers. After this no rancour ever remains to prolong the quarrel. Our walk ended at the houſe, which had belonged to his uncle, the canon. I was there ſurprized by finding a collation prepared for me. It conſiſted of bread, cheeſe, and wine. I could not refuſe to taſte the wine of Pinon; and I drank with ardent good-will to the laſting happineſs and proſperity of the Guittards.—Some time after, a mark of honourable diſtinction was given by government, to be worn as a girdle by the maſter. They loſt it, when all ſuch diſtinctions were aboliſhed by the revolution.

ACCOUNT

## ACCOUNT *of the* DEI CENTO CAVALLI.

[From Stolberg's Travels through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Sicily.]

THIS tree, which for centuries has been hollow, conſiſts at preſent of five prodigious trees, ſeveral of the inward ſides of which are ſmooth, though time has covered them with a kind of bark, and which we indubitably ſee all actually belong to one great trunk, through which wide cavities have been made by the decay which time produces. They ſtand in a circle, and form a vaſt connected bower, denoting the natural rounding of the tree, which has only been perforated by a ſucceſſion of centuries.

Swinburne, a traveller of underſtanding and veracity, ſays: "When I firſt ſaw this tree, I concluded myſelf impoſed upon by the deſcriptions of preceding travellers, and was convinced that the original tree had been cut down, and the preſent group formed by new ſhoots ſprung out of the old root; but upon a cloſer examination I changed my opinion. This wonderful production of the vegetable kingdom conſiſts of a trunk now ſplit to the ſurface of the earth, but, as I found by digging all round, united in one body at a very ſmall depth below."

We meaſured the circumference of this tree, and found it to be twenty-five canne and ſix palmi, or one hundred and ſixty-two French feet, pied de roi, which is ſomething larger than the Rheniſh foot. A canna contains eight palms, the palm a ſpan, including the firſt joint of the thumb.

We and our whole eſcort, mules and all, found more than ſufficient room within this tree; nor were we incommoded by the remains of a ſtone houſe and oven, which had been built there; and you will eaſily perceive, from its circumference, that the name Dei cento cavalli is no exaggeration. Huge branches ſpread from its principal trunks on all ſides; and the vigorous vegetation of its green old age increaſes the admiration which its aſpect excites, eſpecially having ſuffered, as it has done, from the ravages of time, in deſpite of which its venerable ruins rather reſemble a grove than a tree. View it on which ſide you will, its appearance is as beautiful as it is unique.

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## DESCRIPTION *of the* CITY *of* THEBES.

From Kendal's Tranſlation of Denon's Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt.

*Concluded from Page* 327.

THE French were attracted into the plain by the ſight of two large figures, between which, according to the deſcriptions

ſcriptions of Herodotus, Strabo, and thoſe who have copied theſe writers, was the famous ſtatue of Oſſimandue, the talleſt of all the coloſſuſes: Oſſimandue himſelf was ſo vain of the execution of this bold undertaking, that, on the pedeſtal of the figure, he cauſed an inſcription to be engraved in which he challenged the power of man to attempt a monument like that of his tomb, of which the pompous deſcription appears to M. Denon to be but a fantaſtic dream. The two ſtatues ſtill remaining are doubtleſsly thoſe of the mother and ſon of this prince, of whom Herodotus makes mention; that of the king has diſappeared; time and envy having eagerly diſputed its deſtruction, there exiſts only a formleſs rock of granite; it requires the perſiſting eye of an accuſtomed obſerver to diſtinguiſh ſome parts of this figure eſcaped from deſtruction, and when found, they are ſo inſignificant that they cannot give any idea of its dimenſion: the two which are ſtill exiſting are fifty-five feet in height; they are ſeated, with their hands on their knees: what remains affords ſufficient teſtimony that the ſtyle was as rugged as the attitude is incorrect. The low reliefs and little figures which compoſe the chair of the ſouthernmoſt figure are not wanting, however, either in grace or delicacy of execution. It is on the leg of the northernmoſt (which it has been agreed to call that of Memnon) that are written in Greek characters the names of the antient and illuſtrious travellers who have come to hear the ſounds of this ſtatue.* It is here that we may receive conviction of the dominion of celebrity over the mind of man, ſince, in the age when the ancient government of Egypt and the jealouſy of the prieſts ceaſed to forbid ſtrangers to approach theſe monuments, the love of the marvellous ſtill prevailed over the minds of thoſe who came to viſit them; ſince in the age of Adrian, enlightened by the rays of philoſophy, Sabina, the wife of that emperor, and herſelf literate, ſought, together with learned men who accompanied her, to hear thoſe ſounds which no cauſe, phyſical or political, could any longer produce.

The figures are each formed of a ſingle block; they are placed upon elevated ground, and may be ſeen at the diſtance of ten miles. In the morning, their ſhadows ſtretch acroſs the plain, and lie on the ſides of the Lybian mountains.

M. Denon had ſcarcely begun to make drawings of theſe figures when he perceived that he was left alone with his magnificent originals; alarmed at his ſituation, he haſtened after his curious

* It was ſaid that the ſtatue of Memnon emitted certain muſical ſounds at the riſing of the ſun. Some have attempted, but probably upon inſufficient grounds, to account for theſe ſounds, as being produced by the action of the ſun-beams on the pores of the baſaltes, or metallic ſtone, of which, according to them, the ſtatue is formed.

curious companions, who had already reached a large temple, near the village of Medinet-Abû. In paſſing, he obſerved that the ſite of the tomb of Oſſimandue was cultivated, and that, conſequently, the inundation came thus far—a proof, either that the bed of the Nile has riſen, or that anciently there was ſome quay or bank to prevent the river from overflowing this part of the city, which, at the time the French paſſed it, was a large field of very green wheat, promiſing an abundant harveſt.

To the right of, and adjoining the village of Medinet-Abû, at the foot of the mountain, is a ſmall palace united with a vaſt temple, built and enlarged at various epochs. All that could be diſcovered by an haſty review, made on horſeback, was that the back of the palace, which lies on the mountain, was covered with hieroglyphics, very deeply cut, and without any relief; that Chriſtianity, in the fourteenth century, employed the temple for a church, adding two ranks of columns, in the ſtyle of the times, for the ſupport of a roof. The palace is the only edifice remaining that was not built for a temple, and even this adjoins a temple. It has a raiſed ſtory, ſquare windows, ſmall doors, a ſtair-caſe, and balconies. On one ſide are fabrics reconſtructed with more antient materials, before which are a ſkeen and court which have never been completed. This palace is as ſolidly conſtructed as the ſacred edifices, and equally covered with low reliefs.

## INTERESTING TRIAL.

AN action has lately been tried in the ſecond term, 1802, at Bombay, before Sir William Syer, Knt. Recorder, &c. brought by Lieutenant Caſtleton Maw, againſt Meſſrs. Learmouth, Raymond, &c. officers of the ſhip Scaleby Caſtle, for an aſſault.

It appears, that in croſſing the Line, in the paſſage to Bombay, the uſual ceremony performed by Neptune and his attendant deities took place, which conſiſts of *ſhaving* and *ducking* all thoſe who have not before croſſed the Line. This Lieutenant Maw firmly reſiſted, and made many offers to give an equivalent either in money or ſpirits, to be excuſed from ſuffering ſuch an indignity.

After making repeated offers to the men, on condition of their not moleſting him, and finding them contemptuouſly rejected, he ſhut himſelf up in his cabin, the door of which he barricadoed with trunks and boxes, the beſt way he was able, uſing the farther precaution of lowering his port to prevent intruſion from without. After remaining ſome time in this ſtate of impriſonment, without light or air, and that under the Line, and during the hotteſt part of the day, the party, whoſe characters had

had all been caſt beforehand, came to his door, and with oaths and imprecations inſiſted on immediate admiſſion. This he reſolutely refuſed to grant, but with the ſame breath again entreated them to take his money, and leave him unmoleſted: a propoſal on his part which was ſtrongly ſeconded by Mr. Patterſon, the fourth mate of the ſhip, with the additional aſſurance, that he, their officer, would be anſwerable for the plaintiff's ſupplying all of them with ſpirits, on the ſhip's arrival at Bombay. Neither to be won by entreaties, however, nor intimidated by threats, the gang immediately began attempting to force open the door, but not ſucceeding in this ſo eaſily as they expected, they all, with one accord, went on deck, as if on purpoſe for further orders and freſh inſtructions.

Mr. Raymond, the third mate, accordingly deſired ſome of them to go below, and to take the door off the hinges; and ſuggeſted, that others might make their way in at the port.—While one party went down with the carpenter for the firſt of theſe purpoſes, a ſailor of the name of Edwards was let down the ſide of the ſhip, brandiſhing a naked cutlaſs in one hand, while he held a bludgeon in the other. By the aſſiſtance of the latter weapon, the plaintiff's port, which he was not ſailor enough to know how to faſten properly, was lifted up; and Edwards, ſtretching the arm which held the cutlaſs into the cabin, made thruſts therewith in every direction, which Mr. Maw for ſome time parried with his ſword; and though he could, at this period, with great eaſe, have either ſtabbed or ſhot his aſſailant, he abſtained from doing him any injury. Indeed the piſtols with which he had armed himſelf, and which he now fired off, in hopes of protecting himſelf from further outrage, were loaded with powder only. No ſooner, however, were they both diſcharged, than Edwards made a leap into the cabin, his aſſociates at the ſame inſtant ruſhing in at the door. The whole armed gang now preſſed round the plaintiff, and after wreſting the ſword from the only hand he had to hold one, tore and dragged him upon deck. There he clung for ſome time to the poſt of the cuddy door, and ſeeing no hopes of protection, but the contrary, from the firſt and third mates, who were upon deck, called out in the loudeſt and moſt anxious manner for the captain of the ſhip, who, from the unfortunate circumſtance of the door of his apartment being ſhut at the moment, joined to the great noiſe which prevailed without, heard nothing, as he afterwards declared, of this appeal to his protection, which otherwiſe, there could be no doubt, from his diſapprobation of the proceedings when informed of them, would not have been made in vain.

Such was now the agitation of the plaintiff's mind, that he actually made an attempt to eſcape from further outrage, by throwing himſelf overboard, and would have effected his fatal purpoſe, if it had not been for the active humanity of his friend,

Mr. Patterſon. But neither the pain he had already undergone, nor his evidently preferring death itſelf to farther indignity, had the effect of procuring him any reſpite or releaſe. He was torn from his hold, dragged along the quarter-deck to the waiſt, and forcibly fixed in a boat half full of filthy water, which had been placed there for the buſineſs of the day. His eyes being bandaged with a dirty napkin, a naufeous compoſition of tar and pitch was rubbed over his face, and taken off again by means of a ruſty hoop, ſerving the purpoſe of a razor. He was then puſhed back with violence into the boat, and there held ſtruggling for ſome ſeconds, with his head in the water.

In conſequence of this treatment, the plaintiff kept his bed the whole remaining part of the day; and next morning, finding his ſores and bruiſes ſtill extremely painful, had recourſe to the ſurgeon of the ſhip for aſſiſtance, who informed the court in what ſtate he found him.

Mr. Dowdeſwell, on the part of the defendants, conſidered the whole as a joke, and ſpoke in mitigation of damages.

The recorder, as well as the jury, thought theſe jokes rather too ſevere; and the court awarded four hundred rupees damages.

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FOR THE WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

## *Obſervations reſpecting the Situation of Curates.*

To the PRINTER,

SIR,

BY inſerting the following obſervations in your Entertainer, you may render an eſſential ſervice to a reſpectable order of men, and oblige a conſtant reader.

The curates of our eſtabliſhed church are deſervedly held in high eſtimation by the laity, and ought to be more encouraged than they generally are by the beneficed clergy, as without their aid it would be impoſſible for them to hold their rich and numerous pluralities, but muſt be abſolutely given up, if deſtitute of their aſſiſtance.

To the honour of the legiſlature, an act was paſſed in the thirty-ſixth year of the preſent reign, to augment the ſalaries of curates; and the writer of this has been aſtoniſhed, ever ſince, to meet with ſo few of his brethren who have been benefited by that act. As the act was ſuggeſted by the pureſt motives of humanity, juſtice, and religion, it is difficult to aſſign any *good* reaſon why it has not been chearfully complied with, and univerſally carried into execution; particularly, as the rich rectors and vicars have not been inattentive to their own intereſts, the

ſmalleſt livings having been almoſt all improved in value, and the large ones moſt conſiderably, whilſt curacies have received little or no advance.

The words of the act are as follow :—

" And whereas in many places, the proviſion made in and by the ſaid ſtatute (the ſtatute made and paſſed in the twelfth year of the reign of Queen Anne), for the ſupport and maintenance of curates, is now become inſufficient, be it enacted, &c. that it ſhall and may be lawful for the biſhop or ordinary to appoint, under his hand and ſeal, any ſtipend or allowance for any curate heretofore nominated or employed, or hereafter to be nominated or employed, not exceeding ſeventy-five pounds per annum, on livings where the incumbent does not perſonally reſide four months in the year at leaſt, the uſe of the rectory or vicarage-houſe, and the garden and ſtable thereunto belonging, ſuch uſe to be granted to the ſaid curate for the ſpace of twelve calendar months, by the authority of the biſhop or ordinary, under his hand and ſeal, with power in the ſaid biſhop or ordinary to renew the grant from time to time, or a further ſum not exceeding fifteen pounds per annum, in lieu of ſuch houſe, garden, and ſtable, in caſe there ſhall be none ſuch, or it ſhall appear to the biſhop or ordinary not to be convenient to allot and aſſign the ſame to ſuch curate. Provided always that the ſaid houſe, garden, and ſtable, ſhall be for the uſe of the ſaid curate and his family only, during his actual reſidence in the ſaid rectory and vicarage-houſe."

A curate, therefore, is intitled to ſuch augmentation as is in juſt proportion to the living ; and to the houſe, garden, and ſtable, gratis, or fifteen pound per annum in lieu of the ſame.

In caſe he is to reſide in the parſonage-houſe, let him beware how he engages to pay the taxes, ſuch as the houſe and window-taxes, &c. as they are increaſed, and may further increaſe, and may ſwallow up a great part of his ſtipend. Let him alſo ſtipulate for all neceſſary repairs to be done immediately when they occur ; ſo that his ſalary, be it what it may, ſhall be clear of all deductions whatever.

And alſo with regard to ſurplice fees, let it be clearly underſtood whether they are to be conſidered as his right, and what they are. In ſhort, the writer of this would humbly recommend, in order to preſerve peace between the curate and the rector or vicar, that every circumſtance belonging to the curacy be clearly ſtated in writing, and ſubſcribed by both parties, previouſly to his entering on the curacy.

Finally, let the curate be licenſed, in which inſtrument his ſalary is ſpecified, and will come regularly before the biſhop for his approbation.

My reaſon for offering the above obſervations is, that ſome very unpleaſant diſputes have occurred in my neighbourhood, where

where theſe juſt and reaſonable terms have not been complied with; and my motive is to prevent all animoſities in future.

I am, Gentlemen, your well-wiſher,

CLERICUS.

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## *Extraordinary Hiſtory of the Diſappearance of Count Konigſmark from the Court of Hanover.*

*By* NATHANIEL WILLIAM WRAXALL, *Eſq.*

THIS flagitious character was ſuſpected, and not without reaſon, of having an improper intercourſe with the wife of George the Firſt. Some ſlight account of this affair has been given by the late Lord Orford. Mr. Wraxall, in his celebrated Memoirs of the Courts of Berlin, Dreſden, Warſaw, and Vienna, thus circumſtantially relates the whole tranſaction.

Among the ſtrangers of diſtinction, who viſited the court of Hanover, was Count Konigſmark; a man whoſe crimes, adventures, and tragical end, have rendered him too much known. He was by birth a Saxon, though his family was originally from Sweden. Handſome in his perſon, captivating in his manners and addreſs, he was formed to ſucceed with women. He had been early known by, and peculiarly acceptable to, the Princeſs of Hanover, before her marriage, when ſhe reſided at Zell, in her father's palace. It is even pretended, that ſhe had retained a deep impreſſion of this partiality for the count; which naturally revived, on ſeeing him again. Konigſmark, whatever perſonal or external graces he poſſeſſed, was unqueſtionably a diſſolute, unprincipled, enterprizing, man of pleaſure; capable of the greateſt crimes, in the purſuit or attainment of his views. He had travelled over Europe: had ſeen ſervice in various countries; and diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his gallantry, magnificence, and courage. In Spain, he had diſplayed his addreſs on public occaſions; and was honoured by as public teſtimonies of attachment on the part of the ladies of the court of Madrid. When in England, he narrowly eſcaped an ignominious execution, for the murder of Mr. Thynne, in 1682. His accomplices—for it is impoſſible to doubt that he employed or ſuborned them, though the fact could not be judicially brought home to him—were all executed at Tyburn, for that atrocious act. He, himſelf, was reſerved for a deſtiny hardly leſs unfortunate, a few years later; and his name, is now, inſeparably connected with the Princeſs of Hanover, Sophia Dorothea.

The prince, her huſband, who ſerved during more than one campaign in the imperial army againſt the Turks, was frequently abſent from her; a circumſtance which naturally facilitated Konigſmark's acceſs to the princeſs. It is unqueſtionable, that

ſhe entertained for him ſentiments of the moſt partial nature; and that ſhe indulged them in a manner which, if not criminal, was at leaſt imprudent. She was accuſtomed, two or three times in a week, to feign an indiſpoſition; under which pretence, ſhe retired to her apartment. Konigſmark was then admitted: they ſupped together; and uſually remained at table, or in converſation, till two or three o'clock in the morning. When he retired, he deſcended by a little private ſtair-caſe, near the great gate of the ducal palace, which conducted him into the town.

Interviews of ſuch a nature, at ſuch hours, and in the princeſs's own apartments, imply great, and one may add, improper intimacy; particularly, if Konigſmark's profligate character be recollected. It is even difficult, at firſt ſight, not to connect with them the idea of a criminal connection. But, on the other hand, there is neither any proof that they were ſo in effect, nor was any ſuch proof ever attempted to be made out againſt her; though her enemies were deeply intereſted to eſtabliſh the fact, if it had been poſſible. In addition to this negative preſumption in her favour, it is poſitively aſſerted that, during the time when Konigſmark was with her, they never remained alone together; one or more of her ladies of honour, and thoſe of the moſt unimpeached characters, being always preſent. The very imprudence of admitting him to ſuch interviews, ſeems to prove that they were innocent, ſince it was impoſſible that they could be altogether concealed or unknown.

Unfortunately, Konigſmark's perſon and accompliſhments had made an impreſſion, not only on the princeſs, but on Madame de Platen, miſtreſs of Erneſt Auguſtus. Whether, as is pretended, he had divulged the favours which ſhe conferred on him; or, whether he had returned her partiality with indifference and contempt, as other perſons aſſure us; it is certain, that ſhe deeply reſented his behaviour. Irritated at his preference for the Princeſs Sophia Dorothea, of which ſhe was well apprized, and having ſet ſpies to watch his motions, ſhe ſoon diſcovered his ſecret interviews with her rival, of which ſhe gave information to the Duke of Hanover. It was natural to ſuppoſe, that he would not tolerate them; and the count, ſoon afterwards, received an indirect, but peremptory, intimation, that his longer ſtay at Hanover would be diſpleaſing. As he delayed compliance with the injunction, under various pretences, it was reiterated. He, therefore, made public preparations for his departure; fixed the day and hour; ordered his poſt-horſes; and, having commanded his ſervants to expect him at three o'clock in the morning, he went privately to the ducal palace. The princeſs, under pretence of indiſpoſition, admitted him, as before, to her apartment: where a ſupper was ſerved, and they remained for ſome hours together; but, always, in company with one or more of her ladies.

No

No ſooner was the Counteſs of Platen apprized that Konigſmark was in the princeſs's chamber, than ſhe inſtantly carried the intelligence to the duke; and repreſented to him the inſolence of thus braving, if not diſhonouring him, in his own palace. Profiting of his indignation, ſhe induced him to give directions for puniſhing the count's temerity, by an act of immediate violence. It is doubtleſs to be lamented, that Erneſt Auguſtus ſhould have ſanctioned, or authoriſed, an aſſaſſination; for, ſuch it muſt be deemed: but it ſhould likewiſe be remembered, that he was a ſovereign prince; and the provocation was great, if he really believed Konigſmark's viſits to his daughter-in-law to have been of a criminal nature. No appeal could be made to his ſon, who was abſent in Hungary; and the count was on the point of leaving Hanover. How far theſe conſiderations may ſeem to palliate the act, I leave others to determine.

A very general idea has prevailed throughout Germany, that Erneſt Auguſtus, having cauſed four of his guards to put on maſks—they, by his order, attacked Konigſmark, as he came out of the princeſs's apartment, and killed him on the ſpot. I ſaw, this very morning, the place in the electoral palace, where tradition ſays the count fell. It is a paſſage almoſt deſtitute of light, not above nine or ten paces in length. A door, at one extremity, opens into a large handſome apartment; the firſt of the range occupied by the Princeſs of Hanover, and out of which Konigſmark paſſed when he quitted her on the night that he periſhed. At the other end, is another door, near a ſtaircaſe, by which he was to have left the palace. That this was the ſcene of his ſeizure there is no doubt; but the means uſed to put him out of life were more ſecret, though not leſs effectual, than open attack. I ſhall relate them from good authority.

Orders were iſſued, on the part of the Duke of Hanover, to the ſoldier on guard at the palace gate, to ſtop Konigſmark, as he came down the private ſtaircaſe before-mentioned; to force him, by menaces of immediate death, to follow; and then to ſhut him into a ſubterranean vault, or cellar, which was indicated. The ſoldier punctually executed the commiſſion, without knowing, or ſuſpecting, the conſequence. It would ſeem, that the count neither made, nor attempted, reſiſtance: a fact which proves either his want of courage, or of any means of defence; unleſs we ſuppoſe that, confiding in his innocence, he took no precaution for his ſecurity, and was unſuſpicious of an intention to interrupt his paſſage out of the palace. The vault into which the unfortunate Konigſmark was forced, could at pleaſure be filled with water, by means of a pipe. It was, in fact, a reſervoir; and, no ſooner was he ſhut up, than they immediately let in the water, and drowned him. His body, on the

the enſuing morning, was put into a heated oven; and the mouth of it bricked up, as the moſt effectual means of concealing the whole tranſaction!

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## *Remarkable* INTERPOSITION *of* PROVIDENCE.

TWO gentlemen, William Hamilton, Eſq. of Garriſon, and Henry Irvine, Eſq. of Caſtle Irvine, near Ballyſhannon, in Ireland, having a boy named Gillepſie with them, went a few weeks ago in a yawl to fiſh above the ſalmon-leap at Ballyſhannon, which, on account of the very unuſual fall of rain this ſeaſon, is at preſent ſwelled to an amazing height, and falls with an uncommon velocity, as it can ſcarcely be remembered that the body of water which now rolls down that precipice has been exceeded for ſtrength and rapidity of current in any of the winters which have gone before in the memory of the oldeſt man.

The ſcene about the ſalmon-leap is remarkable for romantic beauty, and the fineneſs of the day conſpired to impreſs an idea of ſafety. A number of ſpectators were on every ſide to witneſs at once the elegance of the proſpect, and the novelty of a veſſel fiſhing on ſuch a placid ſheet of water, which, on account of the vortex beneath, and ſo cloſely adjoining a ſcene ſo extraordinarily agitated, affords one of the moſt ſtrikingly beautiful contraſts in nature; for the water immediately below the bridge of Ballyſhannon, and which rolls from Lough Erne in ſilent majeſty, is extremely placid, and the fair image of nature finely reflected on its watery breaſt, till within a ſhort diſtance from the fall, aſſuming an angry aſpect, the reſiſtance of the rocks and huge ſtones cauſe an inſtantaneous and noiſy ſurf, which, the more the obſtacles increaſe, increaſes the more furiouſly, till hurried precipitately, and with the moſt inconceivable fury, it arrives at the height of a precipice of not leſs than twenty feet, down which this world of water rolls with amazing roar, and is contemplated by the traveller as one of thoſe grand productions of nature, to imitate which the moſt exuberant efforts of the pencil have fallen infinitely ſhort, the ſublimity and grandeur of which ſcarcely the utmoſt limits of the fineſt imagination can reach.—Here, then, bordering upon this roaring fall of water, in a ſmall yawl, tranquil, and unſuſpecting the approaching danger, theſe gentlemen lured the finny tribe from their watery receſſes; and ſuch was the unruffled ſtate of the element on which they floated, that the ſcaly inhabitants of the water could be plainly perceived or ſwimming or biting at the treacherous fly that played for their deſtruction on the boſom of the unagitated deep: but in the twinkling of an eye the ſtern of the little veſſel was

hurried round, having been truſted too far within the precincts of the circling waters, and its aſtoniſhed freight in a ſecond encircled with all the terrors of impending deſtruction. What muſt they do? To heſitate were death! The two gentlemen forſake their fragile bark, and attempiing to ſtem the torrent before it becomes more impetuous, ſtrive to evade a watery grave. Poor Hamilton unavailingly buffets the increaſing ſtrength of the waters, unavailingly oppoſes ſtrength to ſtrength—he is precipitated forward to the very boſom of the boiling ſtream, and, overcome by unconquerable force, is borne down even to the very edge of the formidable precipice, and in the ſight of numerous ſpectators, feeling beyond deſcription for his fate, ſinks into the abyſs beneath!

Down this fall, whatever living animal, or man, or horſe, or cow, that had ever been hurried, had never in the recollection of the oldeſt man here, been ſeen or heard of more! But, ſtrange to relate—paſſing ſtrange! in the midſt of that pauſe of terror which followed his fate, Mr. Hamilton was deſcried with his head above the horrid gulph, and ſtriking with both his arms in the briny boiling baſon beneath, ſeemed to exhibit a ſtrength ſuper-human. A boat which had been fiſhing with a ſalmon-net in the pool, comes cloſe to him, and, extraordinary as it may appear, after the wonderful ordeal he had paſſed, he jumps himſelf into the boat, and without a ſingle bruiſe or contuſion, is rowed to ſhore amid the acclamations of an aſtoniſhed multitude.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ervine having alſo jumped from the yawl, by moſt uncommon exertions gained a ſpot in the river, in which he ſtuck, contending with the relentleſs ſtream till drawn from thence by a rope thrown to him by ſome adventurous men, who, at the riſk of their own lives, ſaved his.

Here were two lives moſt providentially ſaved—The fate of the other yet remained in the moſt dubious ſuſpenſe. The poor boy had regained the boat, and having thrown a rope aſhore, had to combat the current with heroiſm, which he moſt certainly did, and diſplayed in the moment of the greateſt danger a courage which would have done honour to one in a higher ſphere. Now one part of the yawl, immerſed in the water, and drawn onward by the force of the current to the fall, he appeared in the other part raiſed aloft, with the utmoſt coolneſs, to encourage thoſe on ſhore to perſevere in his aſſiſtance—till by the providence of an Almighty Protector, he was ſaved, and in ſpite of the ungovernable power of the water, pulled on ſhore!—Here the lives of three men were moſt miraculouſly reſcued, manifeſting to the univerſe, that

> There's a Divinity that ſhapes our ends,
> Rough hew them as we will.

*Remarkable*

## *Remarkable* INSTANCE *of* PRINCELY SWINDLING.

THE town of Friburg, in Switzerland, was under the dominion of the houſe of Auſtria. After the confederate free cantons had become powerful and reſpectable, the Friburgers on various occaſions ſhowed ſuch a diſpoſition to join with them, that the Duke of Auſtria was convinced he could not long retain his ſovereignty over them. He therefore ſent his maſter of the houſehold to the town, who gave out that he ſhortly expected the duke himſelf, on which account he deſired the inhabitants to lend all their plate, gold and ſilver ornaments, jewels, &c. in order to decorate the town-houſe for his reception. Theſe articles he took care clandeſtinely to convey out of the territory. At length the day fixed for the duke's arrival being come, the maſter of the houſehold, with his train, and a number of the principal citizens, rode out to meet him. They proceeded further and further, but no duke appeared; at laſt, however, they met a detachment of troopers, who opened their ranks, and received the houſehold-officer and his party under their protection. He then turned about, and addreſſing himſelf to the Friburgers, coolly told them, "that it had been for ſome time perceived that they were diſpoſed to throw off their allegiance to their prince in confidence of the protection of the cantons; that it was juſt the prince ſhould receive ſome emolument from them before they executed this deſign—therefore he had made bold to carry off the goods he had borrowed of them." So ſaying, he rode off, leaving the deluded Friburgers in a ſtate of ludicrous ſurprize and mortification.

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## *On two New Kinds of Oviparous Quadrupeds.*

THESE two ſpecies, deſcribed by Lacepede, are intereſting not only on account of their novelty; they are intereſting alſo, as they exhibit a number of toes not before obſerved but in the claſs of reptiles.

The firſt, which Lacepede calls monodactylos, has indeed only one toe on each foot. Theſe feet are ſo ſhort, and the body and tail ſo long, that the animal has a great reſemblance to a ſnake; it is covered with ſcales diſpoſed in tranſverſal bands.

The other ſpecies, called tetradactylos, has feet as ſhort, and a body as long as the preceding; but each foot is furniſhed with four toes, and the body is marked on each ſide with a longitudinal furrow.

Theſe two ſpecies will form hereafter two new genera in Lacepede's genera of lizards.

## *BON MOT.*

WHEN the great Duke of Marlborough viſited the Duke of Montague at Boughton, he in high terms commended the excellency of his water-works; to which the latter, with great quickneſs replied, " but they are by no means comparable to your grace's *fire-works.*"

## REMARKABLE FACT.

THE following fact is but imperfectly known to the generality of Engliſh readers. Abraham Duqueſne, one of the moſt famous ſeamen of France, who was born in Normandy, in the year 1610, and died in Paris in 1688, with the title of general of the naval armies of France, and even with the rank of marquis, was not, however, rewarded for his uſeful and glorious ſervices as he ought to have been, on account of his being a proteſtant. His anſwer to Louis XIV. who was one day touching him on this point rather haughtily, deſerves to be remembered: " Sire, when I fought for your majeſty, I did not conſider whether your religion was different from mine."

The ſon of Duqueſne being forced into exile, after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, retired into Switzerland, where he purchaſed of Taverniere, the traveller, the eſtate of Aubonne, whither he conveyed the body of his father, which he had been obliged to bury ſecretly, and had engraved on his tombſtone a remarkable inſcription, which has been thus tranſlated: " Holland has erected a mauſoleum to De Ruyter, and France refuſes a little earth to his conqueror." Thus Duqueſne, who had ſerved his country with ſo much zeal and glory, was expatriated, and in a manner exiled, after his death.

*Anſwer, by M. Thomas, of Eaſt Coker, to Serjeant Bullock's Queſtion, inſerted June 14.*

PUT $2x$ = the ſhorteſt ſide, and $3x$ = the longeſt;
Then $6xx$ = the content or area;

$5x = \frac{6xx}{6}$, or $5x = xx$, hence $x = 5$:

conſequently the ſhorteſt ſide = 10;
the longeſt ſide = 15;
and the area, = 150.

*†* We have received the like anſwer from S. Phillips, and J. Chivers, of St. Auſtell; R. Maſſett, of Saltaſh; and G. W. of Newton Abbot.

*Anſwer, by J. Paſcal, of Briſtol, to W. Bickham's Enigma, inſerted Auguſt 30.*

HAIL mighty power! for from thy heavenly throne,
Thy matchleſs WISDOM beams in mercy down.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Whittle, of Upway.

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*Anſwer, by Recluſe, of Awliſcombe, to J. Paſcal's Rebus, inſerted September 6.*

JOIN the initials right, 'tis plain,
PAOLI is your brother's name:
A general of that name's well known,
Him famous Corſica muſt own.

*** We have received the like anſwer from H. Humphreys, and W. Strong, of Exeter; Walter; J. Whittle, of Upway; J. Callaway, of Stalbridge; J. Tremlett, of Newton Abbot; and Juvenis, of Dorcheſter.

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*Anſwer, by R. Maſſett, of Saltaſh, to P. Geve's Charade, inſerted September 13.*

WHEN awful and tremendous ſcenes appear,
The ſolemn EARTHQUAKE fills the ſoul with fear.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from W. Strong, J. Squance, and T. Whicker, of Exeter; J. Whittle, of Upway; J. P. Paſcal, of Briſtol; W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; J. Channon, of Ottery; Juvenis, of Dorcheſter; J. Lewis, T. Adey, and J. Bloomfield, of Poole; and J. Tremlett, of Newton Abbot.

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*A* REBUS, *by Juvenis, of Dorcheſter.*

HIPPOTUS' ſon, bards, firſt explore;
An author fam'd in days of yore;
Thirdly a baneful paſſion find;
One of the furies call to mind;
The ſpangled heavens with care ſurvey,
From hence a zodiac ſign convey.
Collect the initials, join the ſame,
An ancient chieftain, gents. you name.

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*An* ENIGMA, *by J. Paſcal, of Briſtol.*

WHEN the Almighty from rude chaos made
This wondrous globe, by which his power's diſplay'd,
Then, as an agent of his dread command,
Was I created by his mighty hand;
His matchleſs wiſdom knew, without my power,
What he created would not long endure;
Thoſe glittering orbs that in ſucceſſion run,
In beauteous order, round the effulgent ſun,
By me directed are to trace their way
Thro' boundleſs realms of everlaſting day;
In vain philoſophers have tried to ſcan
My occult cauſe, which ne'er was found by man;
For that's a ſecret known to God alone,
By which his greatneſs and his ſkill is ſhown;
So now, ye gents. of enigmatic fame,
It reſts with you for to declare my name.

# POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

## *A* SCHOOL-BOY'S TOUR *on the* SOUTH COAST, *October*, 1802.

DEAR BROTHER, I told you, by letter in proſe,
From **** how we ſtarted, and watered our clothes;
Thro' Beaminſter daſh'd while the weather was fine,
And at Bridport arriv'd, at the right time to dine;
Took a walk to the harbour, our ſinews to ſtretch,
They call that a harbour which is but a *ditch*.
We ſlept not this night, ſuch vile noiſe did confound us—
Indeed there was nothing but ſnoring around us.
We mounted betimes, and proceeded to Lyme,
And many a weariſome hill did we climb.
A town ſtrange and ſhapeleſs, yet when you get there,
Its appearance is novel, and wholeſome its air.
As civility's ſcarce, we conceive it but right
To record that friend Hutchings* was very polite.
At three we departed, o'er roads moſt uneven,†
So, brother, we enter'd the county of Devon.
Theſe lines I compoſe while our ſupper is eating—
Do you aſk where we ſup? Deareſt brother! at Seaton.§
'Tis a neat little village, with beach moſt commodious—
Earl Warwick reſides in a houſe huge and odious.
And ſo, Sir, the Devonſhire dumplings among,
To bed we retire, and conclude the day's ſong.
Here‖ the river call'd Ax meets the ſea, and in troth
At their meeting there's plenty of roaring and froth,
For old ocean, the grumbler eternal, complains,
*That a river ſhould dare to invade his domains*;
His white waves indignant he pours, as to force
The limpid intruder again to its ſource:
But ſoon they incorp'rate—ſo, brother, we muſt
Ere long mix our poor feeble bodies with duſt.
This tour, deareſt brother, reſembles, I ſay,
The journey we're making thro' life's devious way;
We this way and that, poor blind wanderers, bend,
But the wiſeſt can't ſay when his journey will end:
That Power, mean while, who gave life to our clay,
With flowers and thorns ſtrews alternate the way.

From the village of Seaton to Sidmouth ſo low
The country around makes a deſolate ſhew.
High hills cloath'd with weeds that are wither'd and dry,
Like monſtrous huge fern-heaps appear to the eye;
Yet, if turning and winding, the ſummits you gain,
The proſpects afford a reward for your pain.
This place¶ nothing owes to the artiſan's hand,—
Here nature is rugged, majeſtic, and grand:

Bold

* The landlord.

† From a hill near Chideock there is ſeen a vaſt range of mountains, forming almoſt a perfect amphitheatre, of the extent of perhaps fifty miles, interſperſed with villages, ſeats, towers, &c.

§ This would make a charming ſummer reſidence and bathing place, but the proprietor of the freehold, Mr. Chatter, will neither build or ſell any land.

‖ Near Seaton and Axmouth. ¶ Sidmouth.

Bold cliffs, one vaſt chain, in a creſcent are ſeen;
*Their hue a deep red, with an edging of green*;
At their baſe, all around, to enliven the ſight,
*The ſea's conſtant ſurge gives a border of white.*

How happy! if HE, whoſe all-powerful hand
Ordain'd me a pilgrim in this varied land;
Who planted the earth, gave the ocean its bound,
And taught each bright planet its wonderful round;
Who gave me an eye, the gay ſcene to explore,
And a heart that delights to admire and adore,
Would here let me reſt till my laſt glaſs has run,
And death ſhall complete what diſeaſe has begun.

C.

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For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

*A* SONNET, *addreſſed to a young Lady on her enquiring the Reaſon of the ſudden Elevation of my Spirits.*

CAN'ST thou, fair nymph, one moment doubt the cauſe,
Why for an hour my ſorrows I reſign?
From thee, alas! my happineſs aroſe,
But, Ah! *that* bliſs was but a *ſhade* of thine.

Whilſt you can boaſt the heav'n-inſp'ring ſmile,
And halcyon ſoul, unknown to *latent* woe;
I too, my time with feign'd delight beguile,
But *outward* joy is *all* the joy *I* know.

O'er azure hills, that gird the orient plain,
Thus, when the ſun its brilliant beam diſplays,
At morning's dawn I've ſeen the frigid main
Reflect the luſtre of its burniſh'd rays.
But tho' ſuch ſparkles o'er the ſurface dance,
An icy chill pervades the bright expanſe.

*Devon.* IIILARIUS.

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For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

ADDRESS *to a* WIFE.

IN health, but wand'ring o'er the varied ſcene
Of hill and dale, in Cambria, favour'd ſpot!
Domeſtic bliſs is ſtill my fav'rite theme;
I bleſs the hand that portion'd out my lot.
What tho' no wife attends me in the talk
Of ſervile courtſhip to a tradeſman's ſmile;
No foes ſurround me, clad in friendſhip's maſk;
I mourn the one, I miſs the other's guile.
Poor conſolation this! the faithful breaſt,
True as the needle to the northern ſtar,
Like it traverſing, knows no ſettled reſt,
But homeward travels, on affection's car.
The attentive hoſt, the welcome of an inn,
Scant compenſation for the happier board
Where love preſides; remote from ſenſeleſs din,
That garniſhes fair plenty's public hoard.
Unrivall'd home! the proverb ever true,
Tho' unknown to luxury, its not leſs dear;
And grateful mem'ry renders but its due,
When from the eye falls recollection's tear.

*N. Caſtle, June*, 1802. A. O.